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FEB 04 2004

**PATENT**  
Docket No. 150.01110101**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Uhlenbrock et al.	)	Group Art Unit:	2822
	)		
Serial No.: 10/032,357	)	Examiner:	Maria Guerrero
Confirmation No.: 4965	)		
	)		
Filed: December 21, 2001	)		
	)		
For: <b><u>METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF GROUP VII METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING OXIDIZING GASES</u></b>	)		

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop AF  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 25, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on the page entitled "Amendments to the Claims."

Remarks begin on the page entitled "Remarks."